

ABSTRACT

A system and method for synchronization of a supplier's production with a manufacturer's production is disclosed. A manufacturer's supply orders are submitted to suppliers during the manufacturer's production taking into account the time required to manufacture, transport, unload, stage, and move the supplies to a location at a production line. Associated with each supply order is a production delivery time that indicates when the supplies are needed at the manufacturer's facility. The supplier, upon receipt of the supply order, starts its manufacturing process to produce the requested supplies to meet the manufacturer's production delivery time. The supplies are then shipped from the supplier to the manufacturer's facility for use in the manufacturer's production line. Upon arrival at the manufacturer's facility, some supplies may be moved immediately to the production line. Other supplies may be moved within minutes or hours of arrival at the manufacturer's facility. In either case, supplies manufactured by the supplier during the production run are consumed by the end of the production run so that no inventory for certain supplies is maintained by the manufacturer.

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